

# REPORT

## OF

# NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 23rd February 1889.

### CONTENTS:

	Page.		Page.
<b>I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.</b>		<b>(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—</b>	
The Afghan difficulty ... ..	161	The Chitpore road in Calcutta ... ..	164
		Street lighting in Calcutta ... ..	ib.
		The Ranaghat Municipality ... ..	ib.
		The Dacca Sudder Local Board ... ..	165
		The report on the working of the Local Self-Government Act ... ..	ib.
<b>II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.</b>		<b>(f)—Questions affecting the land—</b>	
<b>(a)—Police—</b>		Nil.	
The chowkidars of the Gyabanda thana in Rungpore	ib.		
Mr. Stack ... ..	ib.		
Mr. Clarke, Superintendent of Police, Dacca	ib.		
Dacoities at Dighara in Hooghly ... ..	ib.		
Sir Steuart Bayley and Mr. Stack ... ..	ib.		
A police order in Tumlook sub-division of the Midnapore district ... ..	ib.		
<b>(b)—Working of the Courts—</b>		<b>(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation—</b>	
The Munsifs ... ..	ib.	The Sone Canal water-rate ... ..	ib.
Baboo Srinath Gupta, Sub-divisional Officer of Bagirhat in Khulna ... ..	162	The Station-master of Shamnagar ... ..	ib.
Baboo Nibaran Chundra Banerjee, First Munsif of Noakhally ... ..	ib.	A road from Alampore to the Porada station in Nuddea ... ..	ib.
Charges against some Government officers ... ..	ib.		
<b>(c)—Jails—</b>		<b>(h)—General—</b>	
Nil.		The English Factory Law in India ... ..	ib.
<b>(d)—Education—</b>		The postal overseer of Chittagong ... ..	166
The Calcutta University Examinations ... ..	ib.	Regulation of the legal profession ... ..	ib.
The University Examinations ... ..	ib.	Adulteration of mustard oil ... ..	ib.
Sir Alfred Croft's report on moral education ... ..	ib.	The Crawford Commission ... ..	ib.
Mr. K. M. Banerji in the Diamond Harbour School ... ..	ib.	The Bengal Administration Report for 1887-88 ... ..	167
The late University Examinations ... ..	163	Malarial fever in Bengal ... ..	ib.
Pathshala education ... ..	ib.	Mr. Crawford ... ..	ib.
Text-books in vernacular schools ... ..	ib.	The Crawford Commission ... ..	ib.
The University Examinations ... ..	164	The Exchange difficulty ... ..	168
Technical education ... ..	ib.	The Bengal Administration Report and the Native Press ... ..	ib.
The pathshala at Gushkhara in the Burdwan district ... ..	ib.	Mr. Kennedy of Assam and the defamation case against the <i>Sanjivani</i> newspaper ... ..	ib.
		The Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Patna Division ... ..	169
		Dr. Gregg's Sanitary Circular ... ..	ib.
		Sir Steuart Bayley and the famine in Behar ... ..	170
		Dr. Gregg on drainage ... ..	ib.
		The Press Commissionership ... ..	ib.
		Retrenchment in Government offices ... ..	ib.
		Sir Steuart Bayley and the Behar famine ... ..	ib.
		A Postal Circular ... ..	ib.



The English administrative policy in India	... 171
Clerks for the registration of births, deaths, and marriages	... <i>ib.</i>

## III.—LEGISLATIVE.

X—The Contagious Diseases Act	... <i>ib.</i>
Sir Alfred Croft in the Bengal Council	... <i>ib.</i>
Jury reform	... <i>ib.</i>
The Indian Railways Bill	... 172
Re-appointment of Sir Alfred Croft and Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar as Members of the Bengal Council	... <i>ib.</i>

## IV.—NATIVE STATES.

The Maharajah of Cooch Behar	... <i>ib.</i>
------------------------------	----------------

## V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Scarcity in the Gybanda sub-division of the Rungpore district	... <i>ib.</i>
Distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division	... <i>ib.</i>
Scarcity in Behar	... 173

The condition of the people of Gopalnagar in Midnapore	... 173
The condition of the Tumlook sub-division of the Midnapore district	... <i>ib.</i>

## VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The Lady Dufferin Fund	... <i>ib.</i>
The <i>St. James Gazette</i> on the Subordinate Native Magistracy of India	... 174
The Gorakshini Sabha and the anti-cowkilling agitation	... <i>ib.</i>
Sir Auckland Colvin's visit to Lord Lansdowne	... <i>ib.</i>
Lord Reay on drunkenness in India	... <i>ib.</i>
A letter on the Congress in the <i>Civil and Military Gazette</i>	... <i>ib.</i>
The Viceroy's illness	... <i>ib.</i>
The <i>St. James Gazette</i> on Indian morality	... <i>ib.</i>
The circulation of the <i>Bangabasi</i> newspaper	... 175

## URIYA PAPERS.

Nil.

## ASSAM PAPERS.

Gachtala mukhtears	... <i>ib.</i>
--------------------	----------------

## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Monthly.				
	"Kasipore Nibasi" ... ..	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	30	Falgun 1295 B. S.
Fortnightly.				
2	"Abhammad" ... ..	Tangail, Mymensingh.	450	
3	"Ave Maria" ... ..	Calcutta	.....	
4	"Divakar" ... ..	Calcutta	.....	
5	"Gaura Duta" ... ..	Maldah	.....	
6	"Grambasi" ... ..	Uluberia	800	
7	"Purva Bangabasi" ... ..	Noakhally	.....	
8	"Purva Darpan" ... ..	Chittagong	700	
9	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi" ... ..	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....	
Weekly.				
10	"Arya Darpan" ... ..	Calcutta	102	
11	"Bangabasi" ... ..	Ditto	20,000	16th February 1889.
12	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ... ..	Burdwan	302	
13	"Chandra Vilash" ... ..	Berhampore	250	
14	"Charuvarta" ... ..	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	11th ditto.
15	"Chattal Gazette" ... ..	Chittagong	800	12th ditto.
16	"Dacca Prakash" ... ..	Dacca	1,200	17th ditto.
17	"Education Gazette" ... ..	Hooghly	885	15th ditto.
18	"Garib" ... ..	Dacca	3,000	
19	"Hindu Ranjika" ... ..	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	300	13th ditto.
20	"Jagatbasi" ... ..	Calcutta	750	
21	"Murshidabad Patrika" ... ..	Berhampore	508	
22	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ... ..	Ditto	350	22nd ditto.
23	"Navavibhakar Sadharani" ... ..	Calcutta	600	18th ditto.
24	"Praja Bandhu" ... ..	Chandernagore	995	15th ditto.
25	"Pratikar" ... ..	Berhampore	600	15th ditto.
26	"Rungpore Dik Prakash" ... ..	Kakiniá, Rungpore	205	7th ditto.
27	"Sahachar" ... ..	Calcutta	500	13th ditto.
28	"Samaya" ... ..	Ditto	3,806	15th ditto.
29	"Sanjivani" ... ..	Ditto	4,000	16th ditto.
30	"Sansodhini" ... ..	Chittagong	800	8th ditto.
31	"Santi" ... ..	Calcutta	3,722	20th ditto.
32	"Sarawat Patra" ... ..	Dacca	300	
33	"Som Prakash" ... ..	Calcutta	1,000	18th ditto.
34	"Srimanta Saudagar" ... ..	Ditto	.....	
35	"Sulabha Samachar and Kusadaha" ... ..	Ditto	800	
36	"Surabhi and Pataka" ... ..	Ditto	700	14th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<i>Daily.</i>				
37	"Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	17th to 20th Feb. 1889.
38	"Samvád Prabhákar" ...	Ditto ...	800	13th to 18th & 21st ditto.
39	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	15th & 18th to 20th ditto.
40	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ...	Ditto ...	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
41	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	.....	18th ditto.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
42	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samachár Patriká." ...	Darjeeling ...	20	14th ditto.
43	"Kshatriya Pratiká" ...	Patna ...	200	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Aryávarta" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	16th ditto.
45	"Behar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	.....	
46	"Bhárat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	1,653	14th ditto.
47	"Sár Sudhánidhi" ...	Ditto ...	500	11th & 18th ditto.
48	"Uchit Baktá" ...	Ditto ...	4,500	
49	"Hindi Samáchar" ...	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
50	"Jám-Jahán-numá" ...	Calcutta ...	250	8th & 15th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
51	"Aftal Alrm Arrah" ...	Arrah ...	300	
52	"Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	
53	"Anis" ...	Patna ...	.....	
54	"Gauhur" ...	Calcutta ...	196	11th ditto.
55	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar" ...	Behar ...	150	
56	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	.....	
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
57	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat" ...	Calcutta ...	340	
<i>Daily.</i>				
58	"Urdu Guide" ...	Calcutta ...	212	14th to 20th ditto.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
59	"Taraka and Subhavártá" ...	Cuttack ...	.....	
60	"Pradíp" ...	Ditto ...	.....	
61	"Samyabadi" ...	Ditto ...	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
62	"Utkal Dípiká" ...	Cuttack ...	444	
63	"Balasore Samvad Váhika" ...	Balasore ...	205	
64	"Uriya and Navasamvád" ...	Ditto ...	600	
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
65	"Silchar" ...	Silchar ...	500	11th ditto.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
66	"Paridarshak" ...	Silchar ...	450	







## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Aryavarta*, of the 16th February, says that Russia has taken the side of Ishak Khan, and if the British Government does not prevent Amir Abdur Rahman from fighting against Ishak Khan, the Afghan difficulty will increase until it is brought to an end in a face to face encounter between England and Russia.

ARYAVARTA,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

2. A correspondent of the *Rungpore Dik Prakāsh*, of the 7th February, says that, on the occasion of the visit of the Magistrate of Rungpore to the Gybanda Sub-division, the chowkidars of the Gybanda thana were ordered to be present at the town. These poor men had to work very hard day and night, but they were not given any subsistence allowance.

RUNGPORE DIKPRA-  
KASH,  
Feb. 7th, 1889.

3. The *Aryavarta*, of the 16th February, thanks Sir Steuart Bayley for dismissing Mr. Stack, the Police Superintendent, who has been found guilty of having enticed away Wuziran Bibi.

ARYAVARTA,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

4. Referring to the serious allegations published in the *East* newspaper against Mr. Clarke, the Superintendent of Police, Dacca, the *Sanjivani*, of the 16th February, asks the authorities to enquire into the charges. For if the charges are found to be true, it will be necessary either to dismiss or to degrade this haughty and indiscreet police officer.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

5. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 16th February, reports a case of dacoity at the house of Bhutnath Banerji of Dighra, a village in the Hooghly district. There have been several dacoities in the village, but the police has not yet succeeded in tracing any one of the dacoits.

BANGABASI,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

6. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 18th February, referring to Sir Steuart Bayley's refusal to accept Mr. Stack's resignation, and to his dismissal of that officer, says that Sir Steuart acts rightly in punishing guilty officers instead of screening them.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
Feb. 18th, 1889.

7. A correspondent of the *Santi*, of the 20th February, asks Government to enquire why the people of the Tumlook sub-division in the Midnapore district have been ordered by the local police to keep two strong bamboo *lathis* with iron clasps in every house. The order has had a most unhappy effect in the sub-division. It has alarmed the people. It has encouraged thieves. It has made the chowkidars negligent in keeping guard in the villages by creating in their minds the impression that the villagers with two strong *lathis* in each house will now be able to take care of themselves.

SANTI,  
Feb. 20th, 1889.

## (b)—Working of the Courts.

8. The *Samaya*, of the 15th February, cannot understand why Government makes no attempt to put an end to the sufferings of the Munsifs. In 1886 a profit of 30 lakhs of rupees was made from the Munsifs' Courts. If Government spends but a portion of this income for the purpose of increasing the number of Munsifs, and for other necessary purposes, the benefit done to the Munsifs themselves and to the public in general will be incalculable.

SAMAYA  
Feb. 15th, 1889.



DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 19th, 1889.

9. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 19th February, has

Baboo Srinath Gupta, Sub-divisional Officer of Bagirhat in Khulna.

received more complaints against Baboo Srinath Gupta, Sub-divisional Officer of Bagirhat, in Khulna. The complaints have been received under the signature of only one pleader, and are not therefore published. But the Deputy Baboo may be told that he has already got a bad name, and will therefore do well to be careful in future.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA.

10. The same paper has received complaints against Baboo Nibaran Chandra Banerjee, First Munsif of Noakhally.

Baboo Nibaran Chandra Banerjee, First Munsif of Noakhally.

It appears that all the pleaders practising in his Court are dissatisfied with him. If the Munsif does not mend his ways, the complaints against him will be published.

SANTI,  
Feb. 20th, 1889.

11. The *Santi*, of the 20th February, has received numerous complaints

Charges against some Government officers.

against the Sub-divisional Officer of Nattore, the Munsif of Luchmipura in Noakhally, and the Sub-Registrar of Cox's Bazar in Chittagong.

The writer hopes that these officers will mend their ways, or he would be obliged to publish the charges which have been preferred against them.

(d)—Education.

SAHACHAR,  
Feb. 18th, 1889.

12. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th February, says that, considering the

The Calcutta University Examinations.

unusually large number of candidates appearing at the Entrance, F.A. and B.A. Examinations of the Calcutta University, it is desirable to

hold these three examinations on three different dates, and not on the same date, as is now done, with a view of avoiding all possible confusion and mismanagement in the conduct of those examinations.

PRAJA BANDHU,  
Feb. 15th, 1889.

13. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 15th February, complains that in one

The University Examinations.

of the papers on English at the last First Arts Examination of the Calcutta University, there

was a question consisting of some extracts, but without any direction as to what was to be done with them; nine marks were assigned to that question. The question must have confounded a great many candidates. It is much to be regretted that such bungles should be made in the University Examinations every year.

SANJIVAN,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

14. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th February, has heard that Sir Alfred

Sir Alfred Croft's report on moral education.

Croft has sent to Government a confidential report on moral education. The writer has not seen that report, but believes that some

people have seen it. He therefore finds some people taking Sir Alfred to task for stating in his report that the moral laxity observable among educated Hindus is the result of their loss of faith in their ancestral religion. But Sir Alfred's critics are clearly wrong. High morality without religion may be met with in a few such men as Bradlaugh; but it is, as a rule, an impossibility. The growth of atheism in Europe and America has been attended with a loss of character which has become cause for anxiety even to the statesmen of those Continents. And as regards the educated Indians who have lost their old religious beliefs, there is no gainsaying that their character is not very high. Sir Alfred Croft is entitled to public support in his laudable endeavour to introduce moral teaching in the schools and colleges.

BANGABASI,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

15. The *Bangabasi*, of the 16th February, says that Mr. K. M.

Mr. K. M. Banerji in the Diamond Harbour School.

Banerji, who was reported to have gone to the Diamond Harbour School to give a moral discourse to the boys (see Weekly Report on



Native Newspapers for week ending the 16th February 1889, paragraph 24) has since seen the writer and told him that he did not visit the school with the object which has been attributed to him, and that he is opposed to the delivery of moral lectures in schools and colleges by men like Pratap Chandra Majumdar and Shiba Nath Shastri.

16. The *Som Prakash*, of the 18th February, says that, when it saw that the 9th question in the afternoon paper on English at the First Arts examination consisted

SOM PRAKASH,  
Feb. 18th, 1889.

The late University examinations.

only of some extracts without any direction as to what was to be done with them, it could not help thinking that anarchy was reigning supreme in the University. For, if it was not anarchy, how could such a mistake exist in spite of examiner, moderator and proof-reader? The examiner should either give the full marks allotted to that question to all the candidates, or treat the question as not given in awarding marks. The paper on Physics at the same examination was so stiff that only those candidates for the B.A. Examination, who had taken the science course, could be expected to answer it. The questions in English were also too numerous to be answered within the appointed time. The paper on English Grammar at the Entrance examination was difficult. It reflects great disgrace on the examiners that they make these examinations an occasion for a display of their own learning. The Syndicate is fast losing public respect. If it is not soon reconstituted, it will go down in public estimation past all hope.

17. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 18th February, does not agree with the Lieutenant-Governor in thinking that the municipalities ought to spend

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
Feb. 18th, 1889.

Pathsala education.

money on education. Every one knows that the municipalities cannot for want of money make arrangements even for so necessary a thing as the supply of good drinking water. Municipalities have indeed been relieved of their old police charges, but it is nevertheless a fact that they have not money enough to do a great deal of what they ought to do in a strictly municipal point of view.

Pathsala education is not satisfactory because the gurus do not receive adequate remuneration. The gurus do not receive stipends from Government if they cannot pass students, and when they pass students the stipends they receive are very small. Thus the gurus are obliged to do other work besides teaching, which means that their teaching is badly done. Again, some of the subjects taught in the pathsalas, such as Mensuration and Hygiene, are so difficult that ordinary gurus cannot teach them. The chief gurus receive only one anna a month for each patshala, and are not allowed to inspect more than 16 patshalas in a month. They do not therefore care to inspect pathsalas during the rainy season. Pathsala education will not improve without increased expenditure. But Government proposes to reduce its pathsala expenditure!

18. A correspondent of the *Dacca Gazette*, of the 18th February, says that it is necessary that education should be suited to the time when it is given. An

DACCA GAZETTE,  
Feb. 18th, 1889.

Text-books in vernacular schools.

education, however good it may be in other respects, will do more harm than good if it is not suited to the nature and requirements of the time. Judged by this principle, Bengali books written by the most distinguished Bengali authors are not fit text-books now for the schools of this country. There is more of verbiage than of useful matter in such books. Pundit Iswar Chandra Bidyasagar's *Akhyamanjari*, for instance, so extensively used in the schools, is a more wordy than substantial production. And the morality it teaches is not very superior morality for the Hindu; it is in some respects decidedly inferior morality for him. Its language and style are also out of



fashion, and must make its teaching very difficult for all but those who have received their education in the Normal Schools. The question of the Bengali text-books in use in the schools requires to be reconsidered in the light of these remarks.

SANTI,  
Feb. 20th, 1889.

19. The *Santi*, of the 20th February, asks—Who is the head of the Calcutta University, and who is the Chief Superintendent of the University Examinations responsible for the irregularities which are noticed in connection with those examinations? There were many misprints in the question papers set to the Entrance candidates. There were some extracts in one of the F. A. papers, but what was wanted of the candidates in regard thereto was not stated. Mismanagement by the University has become greater than ever under the present Registrar.

SANTI.

20. The same paper says that the Indian patriots clamour for the establishment of technical schools in the country, and blame Government for not furnishing money for that purpose. But the fate of the workshop attached to the Shibpore Engineering College leaves little room for doubt that if technical schools are established by Government, no one will go there for instruction, and much public money will be wasted.

SANTI.

21. A correspondent of the same paper asks Government to grant money in aid of the pathsala at Gushkara, a village in the Burdwan district, which will cease to exist if it does not receive a Government grant.

The pathsala at Gushkara in the Burdwan district.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

GAUHAR,  
Feb. 11th, 1889.

22. The *Gauhar*, of the 11th February, asks Government to compel the Calcutta Municipality to improve the condition of the Chitpore road. The traffic on that road is very large, and the road is partially obstructed by the depositing thereon of a large number of pipes and other materials. Moreover, the accumulation of mud on the road makes it difficult for passengers to walk on it. The constant running of tramcars on this narrow road is also a source of inconvenience to foot passengers.

The Chitpore Road in Calcutta.

SAMAYA,  
Feb. 15th, 1889.

23. The *Samaya*, of the 15th February, says that the gas-lights in the streets of Calcutta are put out at 4-30 or 5 A.M., when it is yet quite dark. This makes walking in the streets at the latter end of the night very inconvenient, and also favours the commission of thefts. Thefts are mostly committed at Calcutta at the latter end of the night. The municipality should attend to the matter.

Street lighting in Calcutta.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Feb. 18th, 1889.

24. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 18th February, says that many places in Ranaghat are overgrown with jungle. The roads there are very bad. The Municipality looks only to a few such roads as the Ferry Fund Road, the Pal Chowdhury Road, the road to the west of the Railway line, and the road by which the Deputy Magistrate goes from his Court to the station. There are many foul ponds and ditches within the Municipality which become hotbeds of malaria during the rains. One of these foul ponds, namely, the one in Nasrapara in front of the house of the late Sahayaram Datta and behind the house of Ramgati Goala, is said to belong to the Chairman of the Municipality, and that is, perhaps, the reason why it has not been filled up, although the correspondent has during the last two years repeatedly urged the necessity of filling it up.

The Ranaghat Municipality.



Lamp posts fitted with lanterns have been set up in the streets of the Municipality, but lights are not given for want of money. Each post is said to have cost Rs. 14. High price certainly!

25. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 18th February, is dissatisfied with the working of the Dacca Sudder Local Board, and for the following reasons:—

DACCA GAZETTE,  
Feb. 18th, 1889.

The Dacca Sudder Local Board.

(1).—The gentlemen who represent the Keranigunge and Kapashia thanas on that Board, have made no attempt to get the road along the Burigunga river improved.

(2).—The Chairman of the Board gets travelling allowances for visiting places within his jurisdiction, but he has not, within the last three years, visited the Keranigunge thana. It is said that he does not go out on inspection at all. This is bad. When he has accepted the duty he should properly discharge it. If he has no time for the work, he should resign.

26. In reviewing the recent report on the working of the Local Self-Government Act during the period of 18 months from 1st October 1886 to March 1888, the *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 21st February,

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,  
Feb. 21st, 1889.

The report on the working of the Local Self-Government Act.

remarks that the working of a new measure cannot be entirely satisfactory at first. But every impartial man must admit that the working of the Local-Self Government Act during the 18 months under review has been very satisfactory. Much of the power of the district officials has now passed into the hands of the members of the District and Local Boards, and many of them do not therefore like these bodies, and entertain unfriendly feelings towards them. That they have co-operated and worked in harmony with these bodies is simply because the members of those bodies have worked well. But it must also be admitted that the Boards have many friends among the officials.

(g)—*Railways and communication including canals and irrigation.*

27. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th February, expresses itself satisfied with Sir Steuart Bayley's order reducing the water-rate levied for the use, for agricultural purposes, of the water of the Sone Canal from Rs. 1-9 to Rs. 1-4 per bigha. The reduction has been very properly made in this year of distress.

SAHACHAR,  
Feb. 13th, 1889.

The Sone Canal water-rate.

28. The *Prajā Bandhu*, of the 15th February, says that the new Eurasian station-master of the Shamnagar station on the Eastern Bengal Railway line, who is said to be related to a high Railway officer, has ruled that no passenger should come into the station before the arrival of the trains. Such an arrangement will, it is clear, be very inconvenient to passengers in general, and particularly to those having females with them. It is hoped that the Railway authorities will take notice of this capricious order.

PRAJA BANDHU,  
Feb. 15th, 1889.

The Station-master of Shamnagar.

29. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 16th February, complains of the want of a road from Alampore to the Porada Railway station in Nuddea. The inhabitants of Dabakula have contributed a large amount of money to the Road Cess Fund, but not a pice of that sum has been spent for their benefit.

BANGABASI,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

A road from Alampore to the Porada Station in Nuddea.

(h)—*General.*

30. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 7th February, says that though it is clear that the introduction of the English Factory Law into India will do

RUNGPORE DIK  
PRAKASH,  
Feb. 7th, 1889.

The English Factory Law in India.



more harm than good, and that it will totally destroy the infant manufacturing industry of this country, yet nothing will prevent its introduction into India. There is no one to think of the interests of the poor Indians. Even the Sovereign, whose duty it is to increase the material prosperity of the country, does not do so, and is only anxious to promote England's interests and readily yield to the unjust demands of the Lancashire mill-owners. If there had been any one to think of the poor Indians, the import duty on Lancashire fabrics would not have been abolished, and the Indian weaver would not have had to exchange his looms for the plough.

SANSODHINI,  
Feb. 8th, 1889.

31. The *Sansodhini*, of the 8th February, has heard numerous complaints against Sashi Baboo, the Postal Overseer of Chittagong, one of which is that he does not properly supervise the work of the runners and illtreats them. Complaints against the same officer were published some time ago in a local newspaper, and it is not known whether any inquiry was then made. It is hoped, however, that the Inspector of Post Offices will not neglect to make a careful inquiry on this occasion.

SAHACHAR,  
Feb. 13th, 1889.

32. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th February, says that the large increase which has of late years taken place in the number of pleaders is doing much mischief to the country. It is owing to this large increase that many pleaders, who cannot otherwise get cases, pay *dalali* to touters, though the payment of such *dalali* is an unlawful act. The bar is thus encouraging a class of men who are notoriously dishonest, and the result is that the manufacturing of cases and the tutoring of witnesses are practices which are daily increasing. In order to put a stop to this and other evils arising from the large increase in the number of legal practitioners, it is necessary to discontinue the Law examinations at least for ten years. There is nothing objectionable in this proposal, seeing that examinations in all other branches of liberal and technical learning are held only when the necessity for such examinations arises. It is also advisable on political grounds that the number of unemployed lawyers in the country should be reduced; and the following suggestions are made to show how such reduction can be effected:—

- (1). The cheap law classes opened in private colleges should be abolished, and the monthly fee for attending law lectures should be made Rs. 10 everywhere.
- (2). A fee of Rs. 250 should be required to be paid by every law graduate seeking admission into the Mofussil Courts.
- (3). Before admitting a person to the bar, strict enquiry should be made into his private character, with a view of allowing none but the most honest men to enter the legal profession.

SAHACHAR.

33. A correspondent of the same paper draws the attention of Government to the adulteration of mustard oil, and thinks that such adulteration should be put down by a special Act of the Legislature like the Ghee Act.

SAHACHAR.

34. The same paper has heard a rumour to the effect that the Commission which tried Mr. Crawford has acquitted him of the charge of bribery, and has only found him guilty of having made loans of money. But as Mr. Crawford himself admitted having borrowed money, the Commission has certainly succeeded in discovering nothing new.

Again, if the conclusion arrived at by the Commission is correct, and Mr. Crawford did not take bribes, those who said that they had given him



bribes must be admitted to have told lies. These men cannot, therefore, be punished for bribery.

35. In reviewing the Bengal Administration Report for 1887-88, the *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 13th February, says that a list of the newspapers is given in the Report, but without an expression of the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion on them. As the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* constantly abuse the Native Press, an expression of the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion in regard to that press would have been of great use in this way, that it would have enabled the writers in the vernacular press to ascertain whether Government thinks of them in the same way as those Anglo-Indian newspapers. Did Sir Stuart refrain from speaking out because he really considers the Native Press to be seditious and disloyal?

The Bengal Administration Report for 1887-88.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,  
Feb. 13th, 1889.

The list of scientific and literary societies in Calcutta given in the report is incomplete. The names of the following Associations are not found in the list:—(1) The Savitri Library, (2) The Thunthunia Library, (3) The Kumartuli Library, (4) The Sikdarbagan Library, (5) The Calcutta Reading Rooms, (6) The Mahomedan Literary Society, (7) The Students' Association, (8) The National Indian Association, (9) The Oxford Mission Debating Club, (10) The Central Bengal Union, (11) The East Bengal Association, (12) The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

The list of printing presses is also defective. According to it the name of the manager and proprietor of the Prabhakar Press is K. K. Dutt, but this paper knows of no person of that name in connection with that press. Babu Upendra Krishna Gupta was stated to be the proprietor in the Administration Report for 1886-87, and it is difficult to make out how the name K. K. Dutt came to be substituted for that name.

36. In reviewing Dr. Gregg's circular on malarial fever in Bengal, the *Hindu Ranjikā*, of the 13th February, says that the financial condition of most of the municipalities in Bengal is not satisfactory, and it will be difficult for them to carry out the expensive drainage improvements suggested in the circular. Besides, the number of people living within the municipalities form but a small portion of the population of this country, and so any improvement that may be effected in the drainage of municipal areas will do good only to a small number of people. If the country is to be saved from the ravages of malaria, the drainage of the whole country should be improved, and the Government is the only agency that can be expected to effect that improvement. Dr. Gregg should move Government in the matter.

Malarial fever in Bengal.

HINDU RANJIKA,  
Feb. 13th, 1889.

37. The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 14th February, is astonished to learn that Mr. Crawford has been permitted to resign his appointment. When so many native officers are rotting in jail for taking bribes, there is no reason why Mr. Crawford should be permitted to resign and enjoy his pension.

Mr. Crawford.

BHARAT MITRA,  
Feb. 14th, 1889.

38. The *Pratikār*, of the 15th February, has learnt from the *Som Prakash* newspaper that the Crawford Commission has cost Government two lakhs of rupees, and says that Government has done a very wrong thing in thus wasting public money. When Hanumunt Rao, Mr. Crawford's accomplice, has been tried by a regular court of law, Mr. Crawford too might very well have been tried by a law court. Is Mr. Crawford above the law, or will he himself bear the cost of the Commission appointed to try him? All this seems to mean that the law which governs the native is very different from the law which governs the European. It is not easy to see what good will result to Government from ruining India in this way.

The Crawford Commission.

PRATIKAR,  
Feb. 15th, 1889.



SAMAYA,  
Feb. 15th, 1889.

39. The *Samaya*, of the 15th February, says that the easiest way of removing the Exchange difficulty will be to fix permanently the relative values of gold and silver coins irrespective of fluctuations in the value of the latter metal. Let the Government rule that a pound shall always be worth 10 rupees, or that a goldmobur shall always be worth 16 rupees, and the Exchange difficulty will disappear.

BANGABASI,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

40. The *Bangabasi*, of the 16th February, is sorry to find that the Lieutenant-Governor has expressed no opinion on the Vernacular Press of Bengal in the Administration Report of 1887-88. It was the practice of all former Lieutenant-Governors to express their opinion on the vernacular newspapers in their Administration Reports, and the editors of those papers greatly benefited by it. These expressions of opinion enabled the writers in the vernacular press to ascertain how Government thought of their writings, and they could guide themselves accordingly. It is of great use to the Native Press to know what its shortcomings are; and as the Native Press is a friend of the Government, it will greatly benefit if the latter tells it wherein it is failing and how it should do its work.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

41. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th February, points out some more irregularities in connection with the case of Amar Chand Agarwalla of Sibsagar,—see Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 9th February 1889, paragraph 13:—

1. Amar Chand says in his deposition: "The article in the *Sanjivani* newspaper relating to this promissory note, and the transaction between Mr. Kennedy and me, was read out to me in Akhoy Babu's house.

\* \* \* \* \*

After the article had been read out to me, I gave a *vakalatnama* in favour of Akhoy Babu, and asked him to write to the *Sanjivani* to give the name of the writer of the article."

From this it is clear that Amar Chand himself knew nothing about the alleged defamatory article published in the *Sanjivani* newspaper before he came to Akhoy Babu's house. Why Amar Chand went to Akhoy Babu's house, who read out the article to him,—whether or not Akhoy Babu was present there and spoke anything at the time—all these points would have been cleared up if the pleader for the defence had been given an opportunity of cross-examining the complainant. The Magistrate himself ought to have made enquiries on these points, for it was very important to ascertain whether Amar Chand instituted the case of his own motion, or was induced to do so by some one else. The evidence of Amar Chand does not speak well for Akhoy Babu. If Amar Chand is to be believed, either Akhoy Babu himself, or some of his friends or relatives, induced Amar Chand to institute the defamation case. One must hesitate to believe that a pleader could have been guilty of such unprofessional conduct; but so long as Akhoy Babu does not prove that his client Amar Chand made a false statement, the stigma must attach to his name. It is hoped that the High Court and the Chief Commissioner of Assam will call upon Akhoy Babu for an explanation of his conduct in this matter; and being a Government pleader, Akhoy Babu will be bound to submit an explanation to Government if he is required to do so.

2. It appears from the evidence of Amar Chand, as well as of the Jail daroga, that Amar Chand now and then supplied russud at the Sibsagar Jail in the year 1881. In the same year Mr. Kennedy borrowed money from Amar Chand. Government should ascertain whether or not Amar Chand was allowed to supply russud to the jail after the transaction occurred. It appears from Amar Chand's account books produced in court



that Mr. Kennedy took from him goods worth Rs. 817-5-6 between 1881 and 1883. It is not clear from Amar Chand's evidence whether these goods were purchased by Mr. Kennedy for his own use, or for the use of the jail. The Magistrate could have cleared up the point, but he did not do so; and that is why it has become necessary that Government should enquire into the point. It appears from the telegrams sent by Amar Chand to the *Englishman* and the *Indian Mirror* newspapers that Mr. Kennedy did not borrow money from him, and that he owes him money on account of goods supplied to him. The enquiry suggested here is very necessary in order to ascertain the correctness or otherwise of this statement of Amar Chand. Government ought to enquire whether or not the money now claimed by Amar Chand is due on account of rissud supplied to the jail. The Assam Government ought also to appoint a Commission to enquire where, when and how Mr. Kennedy borrowed money, what the total amount of his debts is, and who are the parties from whom he has borrowed money.

3. It is very strange that Government has not yet taken any steps in this direction. It was thought that after the publication of Mr. Kennedy's letter, dated the 10th November 1887, in the *Sanjivani* of the 3rd November last, the Assam Government would not remain inactive in the matter. But it has done nothing. The plea that Mr. Kennedy did not know when he borrowed money from Golap Chand Babu of Sibsagar, that it was unlawful to borrow money, may be allowed to have some force in it; but there can be no doubt that he knew when he wrote the letter of 10th November 1887 that it is unlawful to borrow money. The Assam Government ought to enquire whether Mr. Kennedy has borrowed any more money since that time. In his letter to Golap Chand Babu's pleader, Mr. Kennedy promised to make over one-third of his salary every month to Akhoy Babu for rateable distribution among his creditors; but the writer has learnt that Mr. Kennedy has not paid a single pice to Golap Chand Babu since he wrote that letter of 10th November. It appears from Amar Chand's accounts, filed in Court, that he, too, has not received any money since 1886. Perhaps Mr. Kennedy probably thinks that it is not necessary for him to keep his promise or to pay off his debts. For he writes in his letter: "The surest way not to get it would be by bringing a civil suit." He was willing to settle the claims of his creditors amicably before the publication of the letter of 10th November 1887: for he feared that if the matter reached the ears of Government he might be dismissed. But now that the matter has come to light, and the Assam Government has taken no notice of his conduct, he has mustered courage, and does not think any more of paying his creditors.

By acting in this way the Assam Government is teaching bad behaviour to its subordinate officers. A wholly different line of action had been expected from the present Chief Commissioner of Assam.

42. The same paper requests the Commissioner of the Patna Division to inquire into the truth of the allegations which have been made against his Personal Assistant in the *Behar Herald* newspaper.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

The Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Patna Division.

The Personal Assistant should be sharply reprimanded if the charges are found to be true.

43. The same paper advises the mofussil municipalities to do what Dr. Gregg calls upon them to do in his recent sanitation circular with a view of checking the ravages of malaria. Government should help the municipalities with loans of money at small interest in order to enable them to execute the necessary drainage works. But there is malaria all over the country, and improved

SANJIVANI.

Dr. Gregg's Sanitary Circular.



drainage within municipal areas alone will be but a very small part of the work which requires to be done. The drainage of every village in the country requires to be improved, and the only adequate agency for executing that colossal work is the Government.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

44. Referring to the report submitted by Sir Steuart Bayley to the Government of India on the subject of the Behar famine, the same paper says that the wisdom and sympathy with the people shown by His Honour in this report have earned for him a greater measure of gratitude and public confidence than what he possessed before. The public are receiving proofs every day that His Honour is fully worthy of the confidence which they reposed on him on the occasion of his assumption of his high office. The famine-stricken people of Behar will bless Sir Steuart Bayley with up-lifted hands, and Heaven will shower blessings upon his head.

Sir Steuart Bayley and the famine in Behar.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
Feb. 18th, 1889.

45. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 18th February, says that Dr. Gregg has done well in advising the municipalities to make it their first business to improve their drainage arrangements. But the municipalities do not constitute the whole country, and it is necessary that drainage improvements should be made in every village and in every field in the country. The natural watercourses have been blocked up in many parts of Bengal, and the construction of drains has become necessary in those places. But the people themselves cannot undertake the construction of such extensive drainage works, and it is for the Government to construct such works. Malaria is depopulating the country. The English Government will not have therefore performed its kingly duty so long as drainage work remains undone all over Bengal. Dr. Gregg will earn immortal fame if he advises Government to construct drains in places where the natural watercourses have been blocked up.

Dr. Gregg on drainage.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI.

46. The same paper says that the country was deriving little benefit from the way in which the duties of the post of Press Commissioner were being performed, and it will therefore lose little by the abolition of that post. But the benefit to the country would have been very great if the duties of that post had been properly discharged.

The Press Commissionership.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI.

47. The same paper, referring to the circular issued by Sir Steuart Bayley to the heads of offices, directing them to make retrenchments, observes that there are one or two English officers in all offices, whose services are not at all required, and that considerable saving may be effected by dispensing with their services. But Government is apparently not inclined to dismiss an English servant, even when he has literally no work to do. No retrenchment worth the name can be effected by dismissing petty clerks, bearers, and duffries.

Retrenchment in Government offices.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Feb. 18th, 1889.

48. The *Som Prakash*, of the 18th February, says that Sir Steuart Bayley has by his report on the scarcity in Behar entitled himself to the gratitude of the people of this province. Bengal has benefited in every respect by getting such a ruler. May Sir Steuart enjoy health and comfort, and do many more glorious acts!

Sir Steuart Bayley and the Behar famine.

SOM PRAKASH.

49. The same paper has heard from a reliable source that the Postmasters-General of Bengal and Assam have issued a circular to all Postmasters directing them to open articles sent by natives by the packet post, because the natives cheat the postal revenue by sending unauthorised articles in packets, and

A postal circular.



prohibiting them to do this in regard to packets sent by Europeans. If such a circular has really been issued a grave reflection has certainly been made on the loyalty and honesty of the natives. Government should therefore take notice of the matter.

50. The same paper says that the expenditure of all Governments becomes large in times of danger and disturbance, and becomes small in times of peace.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Feb. 18th, 1889.

The English administrative policy in India. But it is not so with the English Government in this country. For its expenditure in these times of peace is found to be far larger than its expenditure in the troublous times gone by when its revenue was not more than one-half of what it is now. No Government with the single exception of the English Government can keep servants with borrowed money. India has been governed throughout the last hundred years or so with borrowed money, and the financial prospects of a country so governed cannot but be very gloomy. India has to pay eight crores of rupees a year as interest on its public debt. This is sufficient proof that the English have only an aptitude for trade, and no aptitude for the high art of political administration. How do the people boast of their governing power who have not been able to square accounts in the course of one hundred years? The natives have accepted English rule in a loving and confiding spirit. But their English rulers do not hesitate to deal cruelly by them by unwisely creating financial difficulties. And such treatment of the people of India by the British Government is calculated to produce discontent. The British Government should therefore adopt an administrative policy which will suit the pecuniary circumstances of this country.

51. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 19th February, says that hitherto the registration of births, deaths, and marriages, but the work has now been transferred to the office of the Inspector-General of Registration. The Inspector-General has, therefore, applied to Government for some additional clerks for his office. But before granting the application, Sir Steuart Bayley should inquire whether the services of the clerks in the Bengal Secretariat, who were hitherto doing the registration work, cannot be transferred to the office of the Inspector-General of Registration, thus doing away with the necessity of employing new clerks for this work.

SAMVAD  
PURNACHANDRODAYA,  
Feb. 19th, 1889.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

52. The *Gauhar*, of the 11th February, says that the abolition of the Contagious Diseases Act has led to an increase in the number of prostitutes and to increased prevalence of those diseases. It is hoped that the Act will be soon revived.

GAUHAN,  
Feb. 11th, 1889.

53. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th February, is glad to see Sir Alfred Croft reappointed to the Bengal Council. Sir Alfred has now become one of the principal pillars of the Government of Bengal, and is more or less concerned in almost every act of that Government.

SAHACHAR,  
Feb. 13th, 1889.

54. The *Samaya*, of the 15th February, says that though it was proved by the evidence of the witnesses on behalf of the soldier Swift of Ahmednagar that he had aimed his gun at Anda Ganu, the man shot to death by him, the Jury, the majority of whom were Englishmen, returned a verdict of not guilty, and thus Swift escaped with impunity. Failures of justice of this kind often take place when English criminals are tried by English jurors. This suggests the necessity of inserting a provision in the Code of Criminal Procedure to the effect that accused persons, whether European or native, should be tried by a jury of which half should consist of Europeans and half of natives.

SAMAYA,  
Feb. 15th, 1889.



BANGABASI,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

55. The *Bangabasi*, of the 16th February, says that, as it has been decided to reserve the further consideration of the Indian Railways Bill for the Simla session of the Viceregal Council, it will be impossible for Rajah Durga Charan Laha to get his views on the subject of latrine accommodation in third class carriages considered in the Select Committee. This is greatly to be regretted. But it is still hoped that the absence of the Rajah from the sittings of the Select Committee will not prejudice the consideration of this very important question.

The Indian Railways Bill.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Feb. 18th, 1889.

Reappointment of Sir Alfred Croft and Dr. Mahendralal Sircar as Members of the Bengal Council.

56. The *Som Prakash*, of the 18th February, referring to the reappointment of Sir Alfred Croft and Dr. Mahendralal Sircar as Members of the Bengal Council, asks whether no other persons fit to be members of that Council could be found in the country. Government has done wrong in reappointing these men out of personal regard for them. Private considerations should have nothing to do with the selection of men for Council. Will Sir Stuart never endeavour to impart a representative character to these selections?

#### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

SAMAYA,  
Feb. 15th, 1889.

57. The *Samaya*, of the 15th February, does not know with what object the Maharajah of Cooch Behar invited the Lieutenant-Governor to his house. If his

The Maharajah of Cooch Behar.

object was only to please the Lieutenant-Governor, he is greatly to blame. For he is deeply in debt, and if he is not thrifty in his expenditure, it will be very difficult for him to extricate himself from his pecuniary difficulties.

#### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

RUNGPORE DIK  
PRAKASH,  
Feb. 7th, 1889.

Scarcity in the Gybanda sub-division of the Rungpore district.

58. A correspondent of the *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 7th February, says that the people of the Gybanda sub-division of Rungpore have been for a long time suffering from scarcity. It was anticipated that the price of rice would fall after the month of Pous, but the price of rice has risen. It has become very difficult for the cultivators to pay rent to the zemindar.

PRAJA BANDHU,  
Feb. 15th, 1889.

Distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division.

59. The Assistant Secretary of the Gopalnagar Harisabha, writing to the *Praja Bandhu*, of the 15th January, says that it is much to be regretted that Sir Stuart Bayley, who has visited many distant famine-afflicted places, has not paid a visit to Diamond Harbour, where great distress prevails in many of the thanas. In most parts of that sub-division there has been a failure of the crops on account of the late floods, and the failure has been greatest in thanas Bankipore, Mathurapore, and Kulpi. Wages have consequently fallen to half their former amount, and theft and dacoities are rife in those thanas, and especially in thanas Mathurapore and Kulpi. In Mathurapore a theft has been committed at the thana itself, and thefts are so numerous in Kulpi that one does not venture to travel alone even in daylight. On account of the unproductive nature of its soil, only the *Pous* crops are sown in the Diamond Harbour sub-division. Thus the cultivators will have to wait for ten months before they get the next year's produce. How are they to live in the meantime? Distress is already so great at Khari, in the Mathurapore thana, that an old man of that place, who had starved with his family for two days, and who went out to beg on the third day, fainted on the road from sheer exhaustion. The trifling work in the shape of repair of roads, undertaken by the Local Board, will afford occupation but to a very small number of men. Father Maene having published an account of the distress prevailing



in these thanas in the *Statesman* and the *Indo-European Correspondence*, Mr. Grimley has ordered the construction of a road from Magrahât to Haurihât, passing by Father Meane's Church. But this work will benefit only the people of the Bankipore thana, who are comparatively well off. If a road is to be constructed from Magrahât, it should be one which, issuing from that place, will meet the Kulpi road near Bishnupore. Such a road will be of great use to the people of all the three thanas, and will at the same time alleviate their present distress by affording occupation to them. But the best thing to do will be to undertake the repair of the Kulpi road which passes through all the three thanas, and which is in a very bad state.

60. The *Bangabâsi*, of the 16th February, says that the statement made by Sir Steuart Bayley on the subject of the relief works opened in Behar is very encouraging. The writer is confident that so long as Sir Steuart Bayley remains Governor of Bengal the people of Behar will not die of starvation.

BANGABASI,  
Feb. 16th, 1889.

61. A correspondent of the same paper says that the failure of the crops for four successive years has made the people of Gopalnagar, and thirty or forty neighbouring villages, very miserable. The failure of the crops is due to the accumulation of water in the fields, caused by the silting up of the khal called the Lanhabaina khal, which formerly emptied itself in the Rupnarain river. The matter was brought to the notice of Government, but to no purpose. The *boro* and *aus* paddy plants do not grow in this part of the country. The khal ought to be re-excavated, and both the Government and the zemindars should direct their attention to the subject.

BANGABASI.

62. A correspondent of the *Sânti*, of the 20th February, says that excessive and untimely rainfall in the Tumlook sub-division of the Midnapore district has made the condition of the inhabitants of that sub-division very miserable. Government pays the zemindars Rs. 4,500 every year for keeping the khal, embankments, &c., in order, but the zemindars and their amla alone know how the money is spent. With the khals and embankments in proper order, the ryots of this sub-division would have little to fear from excessive rainfall. The Government and the zemindars are requested to direct their attention to this subject.

SÂNTI,  
Feb. 20th, 1889.

#### VI—MISCELLANEOUS.

63. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 13th February, heartily thanks Her Excellency Lady Lansdowne for accepting the post of Lady President of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund.

HINDU RANJIKÂ,  
Feb. 13th, 1889.

The writer next quotes the following from the speech of His Excellency Lord Lansdowne on the occasion of the last annual meeting of the National Association for supplying female medical aid to the women of India:—  
"May we not look upon the organization, which the Dufferin Fund is intended to provide, as a bridge, slender perhaps as those light structures which span your northern ravines, but yet a bridge thrown across the gulf which at present divides the Indian and European communities in this country?"  
This may be acceptable to the younger generation of Indians, but the orthodox Indian community will regard it with fear and apprehension. For the latter already entertain the fear that lady doctors may play the part of zenana missionaries. The Patna missionary case shows what mischief can be done by zenana missionaries.



**SAHACHAR,**  
Feb. 13th, 1889.

64. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th February, says that the *St. James' Gazette* has made use of the Crawford trial to bring a charge of dishonesty against the entire Subordinate Native Magistracy of India. But to call the whole body of Subordinate Native Magistrates dishonest, simply because a few of them are so, is about as proper as it will be to call the entire body of Indian Civilians corrupt because Messrs. Crawford, Cordery, Griffin, and a few others like them, are corrupt. The Native Press of India knows how such isolated cases should be dealt with, and it does not therefore indulge in general accusations of the kind made in the *St. James' Gazette*. Lord Lansdowne, as the representative of India, ought to protest against the *St. James' Gazette's* wholesale charge.

**SAHACHAR.**

65. The same paper says that Government cannot prohibit the slaughter of cows by an Act of the Legislature, for to do so will be to abandon its avowed policy of religious neutrality. The writer cannot therefore see what good is likely to result from the agitation of the Gorakshini Sabha against cow-killing. As agriculturists everywhere take good care of their cattle, they do not require a Gorakshini Sabha to tell them what their duties in regard to their animals are. As for townspeople, the Sabha should let them alone, for they can do nothing in the matter.

**SAHACHAR.**

66. The same paper says that the object of Sir Auckland Colvin's visit to the Viceroy must be to prejudice His Excellency against the National Congress. But His Excellency will not, it is hoped, succumb to Sir Auckland's representations.

**SAMAYA,**  
Feb. 15th, 1889.

67. The *Samaya*, of the 15th February, refers to the statement of Lord Reay that drunkenness has increased in this country since the preaching of Christianity began, and asks how many officials are there with the courage of Lord Reay to speak the truth, even when such speaking is damaging to their own religion?

**SAMAYA.**

68. The same paper, referring to a letter in the *Civil and Military Gazette*, pretended to be written by a Mussulman woman, Jebunissa, and expressing the detestation of Mussulman women for the Congress movement, says that there can be no doubt that the letter has been written by a foolish Anglo-Indian, who thinks that no one will be able to see through his trick. If Mussulman women had been able to write such good English as that in which the letter is written, Mussulmans of the other sex would not now have been found occupying such a degraded position. The Anglo-Indians are greatly mistaken if they think that they can injure the Congress by such mean acts.

**SAMAYA.**

The Viceroy's illness.

69. The same paper is sorry to learn that the Viceroy is suffering from lumbago.

**SANJIVANI**  
Feb. 16th 1889.

70. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th February, quotes the following:—

The *St. James' Gazette* on Indian morality.

"The *St. James' Gazette* has a startling leader, which contains a sweeping slander of the entire lower native magistracy, which, it says, is corrupt. The corrupt Bombay Magistrates, says the *Gazette*, are only fair types of the educated natives who meet together in Congress and their conception of public morality is of exactly the same stamp," and asks the Editor of the *St. James' Gazette*, who is more corrupt—the man, who gives bribes or the man who receives them? There cannot be much to wonder at in a weak-minded subordinate trying to win the favour of his corrupt and all-powerful official superior with bribes. But a very high officer



taking bribes is really the strangest thing of all. But stranger than that strangest of things is the *St. James' Gazette's* statement that, because one or two Bombayites are corrupt, therefore the whole educated Indian community are corrupt. But strange or not strange, parity of reasoning will justify the writer in saying that the whole English nation must be corrupt, because Mr. Crawford is corrupt.

71. The *Santi*, of the 20th February, says that Government publishes wrong statements in its Administration Reports regarding the circulation of native newspapers. The Bengal Administration Report for 1887-88 says that the *Bangabási* newspaper has a circulation of 20,000 copies. But the writer knows that the *Bangabási* had not 20,000 subscribers in 1887-88, and last week its circulation was only a little above 10,000. Government, however, is not to blame for this. It is the managers of newspapers, who supply information to Government on such points, that are to blame for submitting false returns.

SANTI,  
Feb. 20th, 1889.

#### ASSAM PAPERS.

72. The *Silchar*, of the 11th February, has doubts about the legality of the order of the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Kennedy, keeping the *Gachtala* Mukhtears out of the court compound. These Mukhtears are mostly local mirajdars who have acquired the right of writing petitions by passing an examination with the consent of the Chief Commissioner, and who cannot therefore be shut out in the manner Mr. Kennedy has done. When every man has the right to write plaints in criminal cases, it is doing these Mukhtears a great wrong to virtually deprive them of that right; and when the stamp duty is in itself a burden, suitors should not, by the exclusion of these mukhtears, be placed under the necessity of engaging at a great cost the services of Pleaders and Mukhtears in petty cases.

SILCHAR,  
Feb. 11th, 1889.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 23rd February 1889.



